

20th November 2010

Mercury (1)

Good evening,

What is **Mercury** for a modern alchemist?

Mercury is the unconscious.

We will see that it is a little more complex but at the start Mercury is really the unconscious.

Aqua (water) can also represent the unconscious (*See the image of "Mercurial Water" at the end of my article [Mercury \(3\)](http://aqua-permanens.blogspot.com/2011/01/la-table-demeraude.html) [http://aqua-permanens.blogspot.com/2011/01/la-table-demeraude.html]*)

Fire , so precious to alchemists, can also represent the unconscious.

I will come back to the Alchemical Fire because there are different types and several functions of this element.

Mercury, Water or Fire can sometimes be interchangeable but everything comes from Mercury.

So how do you access this Mercury, this source, that is to say how do you access your unconscious?

Quite simply **with the help of the dreams** we have at night. As Freud put it very well: *"dreams are the royal road to accessing one's unconscious"*

I cannot recommend enough therefore to be attentive to these nocturnal messages. It is good to take a little time every morning, not to move too much before getting up, and to remember the dreams we had during the night.



[https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-

hQvIJ2Pia5c/TX47cBEErjI/AAAAAAAAAP0/iolPMcbW1lc/s1600/Le+r%25C3%25AAve++Marc+Chagall.JPG]

"The dream" Oil on canvas - 1927 - Marc Chagall

(Museum of Modern Art - Paris)

It is better to be attentive to it because the unconscious can play tricks on us.

Here is for example for testimony a dream that I had about 18 years ago:

I dream that I am in a cave. This cave is quite large, I observe that there is a rock ceiling. I kinda feel like I'm in a huge oyster. In front of me I see a stretch of water: it's an underground lake. I notice that the lake water is calm like a sea of oil. I am dressed in a simple bathing suit and am sitting on a small towel in front of this body of water. I think to myself that I would be better off if I backed off a bit. So I get up, take my towel that I extend three or four meters higher on the slope where I was initially. I sit

down on my towel and again contemplate the lake and the interior of the cave. I feel like I'm better off this way .

In this dream: the cave, the rock ceiling that looks a bit like the inside of an oyster, the lake, the water; All this is the unconscious. I get up and move my towel because I know my subconscious has already played tricks on me and I don't want to be a victim of that anymore.



[http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_f5mBiFYiqpU/TOhFI3rJ_OI/AAAAAAAAAD0/C-YDwh8h-zo/s1600/Mer.JPG]

Here below is the fourth plate taken from the ***Mutus Liber*** (silent book) which illustrates **the harvest of the dew of the alchemists** . We can observe on this image the cosmic influx in straight beams from the center of the sky, from a point which is between the sun and the moon. The two protagonists collect this precious morning dew in order to subsequently extract the *fixed fire* and the *solar salt*. This is why the philosopher's work is sometimes called **Celestial Agriculture** .

For the modern alchemist, in the *Royal Way* (I will come back to this term and the different ways of Alchemy) **the morning dew are the dreams** that must be carefully collected each morning. And, from day to day (or should I say from night to night...) the many series of dreams will allow the taking and the widening of consciousness; the integration of different aspects of a personality; and little by little the reconciliation and union of opposites ... in short, the smooth running of the process of individuation.



[<https://lh5.googleusercontent.com/-m7tat3-jluM/TW3iKgWpwrI/AAAAAAAAAPs/3kKyeHiM2bY/s1600/Mutus+Liber++quatri%25C3%25A8me+planche.jpg>]

Continued see the article "Mercury (2)" [<http://aqua-permanens.blogspot.com/2011/01/marilyn-manson-sweet-dreams-are-made-of.html>]

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